

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08

EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00

OMB-01 SS-15 /110 W

-----082559 041208Z /53

R 031939Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5723

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

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USOECD

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: EINV, OECD

SUBJECT: INSEAD QUESTIONNAIRE ON OECD GUIDELINES FOR
MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES (MNE'S)

1. AMBASSADOR AND SEVERAL OTHER U.S. OECD MISSION
MEMBERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO RESPOND TO LENGTHY
QUESTIONNAIRE PREPARED BY EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION (INSEAD) AS PART OF AN ATTEMPT TO
"ASSESS THE RANGE OF INTERPRETATION WHICH VARIOUS
INTEREST GROUPS IN THE PRINCIPAL MEMBER COUNTRIES OF
THE OECD PLACE ON THE PROVISIONS SET OUT IN THE
GUIDELINES." WE UNDERSTAND THAT COPIES HAVE ALSO
BEEN SENT TO NUMEROUS USG OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON
AND ASSUME THAT QUESTIONNAIRE HAS ALSO BEEN DISTRI-
BUTED TO U.S. AND HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS IN OTHER
OECD CAPITALS.

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2. USG HAS CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINED THAT IT WOULD BE
INAPPROPRIATE FOR GOVERNMENTS TO INTERPRET THE OECD
GUIDELINES FOR MNE'S AT LEAST UNTIL 1979 REVIEW
COMPLETED. MOREOVER, WHILE GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN
PROMULGATED BY GOVERNMENTS, THEY ARE NOT ADDRESSED
TO THEM. PRINCIPAL VALUE TO USG AND TO OECD INVEST-
MENT COMMITTEE OF INSEAD QUESTIONNAIRE WOULD BE

LIGHT IT WOULD SHED ON OPINIONS OF PRIVATE GROUPS WHO ARE AFFECTED BY GUIDELINES. RESPONSES BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS COULD DISTORT SURVEY RESULTS AND EVEN LEAD TO CONFUSION IF RESPONSES BY INDIVIDUAL OFFICIALS WERE CONFLICTING.

3. WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND, IT SEEMS TO US THAT IT WOULD BE INADVISABLE FOR USG OFFICIALS TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONNAIRE, DESPITE THE MERITS OF INSEAD PROJECT. WE DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IN EAD SHOULD BE INFORMED IF USG DECIDES NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN SURVEY - BOTH AS A COURTESY AND SO THAT THE DIRECTORS OF THE PROJECT CAN FACTOR LACK OF U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSES INTO RESULTS OF SURVEY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON WHETHER WASHINGTON OFFICIALS PLAN TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONNAIRE. IF NOT, MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON NATURE OF EXPLANATION THAT MAY BE GIVEN TO INSEAD (WE ASSUME THAT A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED REPLY FROM WASHINGTON AND A PARALLEL LETTER FROM USOECD WOULD BE APPROPRIATE WAY OF COMMUNICATING WITH INSEAD).
KATZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: QUESTIONNAIRES, MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS24454
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780319-0066
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USOECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808102/aaaadhsu.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 520e0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1547288
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INSEAD QUESTIONNAIRE ON OECD GUIDELINES FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES (MNE'S)
TAGS: EINV, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/520e0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014